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Committee for Programme and Coordination
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Agenda item 7
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-sixth session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Aleg **Yermalovich** (Belarus)

Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019
(*Item 3 (b) (ii)*)

Programme 3
Disarmament

1. At its 7th meeting, on 2 June 2016, the Committee considered programme 3, Disarmament, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019 (A/71/6 (Prog. 3) and Corr.1-3). The Committee also had before it a note by the Secretariat on the proposed strategic framework, contained in conference room paper E/AC.51/2016/CRP.1/Rev.1.

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Appreciation and support were expressed for the programme and the important work of the Office for Disarmament Affairs.

4. Clarification was sought on the changes proposed as well as the associated mandates. Delegations expressed concern regarding the choice of wording and the content of the programme and noted that the formulation contained in the biennial programme plan for the period 2016-2017 was more accurate. Discussions at the fifty-fourth session of the Committee had resulted in specific language proposals that were ultimately included in the approved programme plan for the period 2016-2017, but which had not been included in the proposed strategic framework for the

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period 2018-2019. The value of repeating the same exercise at each session of the Committee was questioned and the need for language endorsed by the General Assembly to be included in future documents was recalled.

5. Imbalances in the level of detail provided for each subprogramme were observed. In that regard, it was considered that a better balance in the drafting of the content of subprogrammes was necessary. In particular, for subprogramme 2, Weapons of mass destruction, a more general format had been used to reflect the goals, achievements and strategies as compared to subprogramme 3, Conventional arms (including practical disarmament measures).

6. The view was expressed that some of the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement put forward in the programme did not fall within the purview of the Secretariat or were inappropriate.

7. The decisions of the General Assembly to convene, no later than 2018, a United Nations high-level international conference on nuclear disarmament, as well as to commemorate and promote 26 September as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, were highlighted.

8. Under subprogramme 1, Multilateral negotiations on arms limitation and disarmament, some delegations were of the view that expected accomplishment (a), relating to effective negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament and in conferences and meetings of States parties to various multilateral agreements on disarmament, arms limitation and non-proliferation in all its aspects, at the organizational, procedural and substantive levels, fell within the authority of Member States, not the Secretariat. Accordingly, the view was expressed that there was a need to refine the wording of that expected accomplishment.

9. Under subprogramme 2, the view was expressed that indicator of achievement (b) (iii), relating to the increased number of Member States offering to support training for experts nominated to the roster maintained by the Secretary-General in accordance with the established mandate, did not appear to correlate with the strategy contained in paragraph 3.9 (a). It was also stressed that the reference to General Assembly resolution 42/37 C as being the relevant mandate was incorrect and needed to be rectified. Clarification was sought as to the appropriateness of including transparency and confidence-building in outer space activities under the strategy of the subprogramme, as well as the nature of those activities and their placement under subprogramme 2 rather than under subprogramme 1.

10. Under subprogramme 3, clarification was sought on the relevant mandate for strengthening cooperation with regard to the issue of improvised explosive devices (para. 3.10 (e)). Doubt was expressed as to whether that particular activity stemmed from a mandate.

11. The view was expressed that the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda was universal and, in that connection, clarification was sought on the impact of the 2030 Agenda on the work of the Office for Disarmament Affairs.

Conclusions and recommendations

12. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of programme 3, Disarmament, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 3.3

Replace paragraph 3.3 with

"Within the Secretariat, substantive responsibility for the programme is vested in the Office for Disarmament Affairs. The strategy of the Office in meeting the programme's objectives is designed around five subprogrammes and is based on its role in and responsibility for facilitating and encouraging, as appropriate, measures aimed at disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects and at all levels, in particular weapons of mass destruction. The Office will continue to assist Member States in promoting, strengthening and consolidating multilaterally negotiated principles and norms in all areas of disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects. It will support efforts of Member States in the areas of disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects in order to promote international peace and security and contribute to global efforts against terrorism. The Office will enhance its capacity for more in-depth analysis, keeping track of developments in those areas, and provide Member States with timely and practical advice, as requested".

Paragraph 3.5

Replace the second sentence with

"This will include providing substantive organizational support to the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and other subsidiary bodies of the Assembly, the Conference on Disarmament and its subsidiary bodies, review conferences and other meetings of parties to multilateral disarmament agreements, as required by States parties to such instruments and entities, and those convened by the Assembly in the field of disarmament, as well as to expert groups mandated by the Assembly."

Subprogramme 1
Multilateral negotiations and deliberations on disarmament and arms limitation

Objective of the Organization

At the end of the objective, insert "and to provide support as required by States parties to the existing multilateral agreements in those areas".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), insert "support to" after "Effective".

Replace expected accomplishment (b) with "Effective support for the timely implementation of decisions, recommendations and programmes of action adopted by the General Assembly and by conferences and meetings of States parties to various multilateral disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation agreements".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (b) (i) with "Improved reporting by States parties on their steps to implement treaty obligations, decisions, recommendations and programmes of action, as required".

Replace indicator of achievement (c) (i) with "Increased percentage of Member States, in particular from developing countries, and female candidates, participating in the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme".

Strategy

Paragraph 3.8

At the end of subparagraph 3.8 (a), insert "and to expert groups mandated by the General Assembly".

Subprogramme 2
Weapons of mass destruction

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective with "To promote and support the efforts for disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery and to assist Member States, at their request, in supporting existing treaties and mandates related to weapons of mass destruction".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with

"Effective and enhanced facilitation of the process of negotiations, deliberations and consensus-building on the total elimination of all weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, on disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects, delivery systems and outer space, and universality of international instruments dealing with weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, by Member States and States parties, at their request".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (b) (ii) with "Number of visits to and page views of the Branch's website".

Delete indicator of achievement (b) (iii).

Strategy

Paragraph 3.9

Replace subparagraph (a) with

"Supporting Member States in their negotiations, deliberations and consensus-building in the areas of disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, in particular

nuclear weapons and their means of delivery, as well as assisting Member States, at their request, in their efforts to achieve the full implementation and universalization of multilateral agreements and to prevent terrorist groups from acquiring weapons of mass destruction".

In subparagraph (c), insert "of disarmament and non-proliferation" after "area".

Delete subparagraph (e).

Subprogramme 3
Conventional arms (including practical disarmament measures)

Objective of the Organization

Insert "and transparency" after "mutual confidence".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with "Effective facilitation of implementation by Member States of the 2001 Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects using available tools, within the agreed mandate".

In expected accomplishment (b), insert "and the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons" after "Light Weapons in All Its Aspects".

In expected accomplishment (c), replace "Increased" with "Effective facilitation of the".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) with "Degree of satisfaction with the quality and timeliness of organizational and substantive services provided, as expressed by Member States".

Strategy

Paragraph 3.10

Delete subparagraph (a).

Replace subparagraph (c) with "Supporting efforts of the United Nations system to address the challenges posed by the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons through the inter-agency Coordinating Action on Small Arms mechanism".

In subparagraph (e), replace "Strengthening" with "Facilitating".

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Addendum

Programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017
(*Item 3 (b) (i)*)

Report of the Secretary-General on consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

1. At its 6th meeting, on 2 June 2016, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the report of the Secretary-General on consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 (A/71/85).

2. Representatives of the Secretary-General introduced the report and responded to queries raised during its consideration by the Committee.

Discussion

3. The improvement to the presentation of the consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 was noted.

4. The importance of the linkage between the programmatic and budgetary aspects of the programme, the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation and the Financial Regulation and Rules of the United Nations was recognized. In order to achieve their objectives and to assist Member States in attaining the relevant Sustainable Development Goals, all affected

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programmes would reorient and reprioritize their ongoing efforts, activities and resources accordingly.

5. Clarifications were sought on the correlation between the proposed changes, the plan outline for 2018-2019 and the note by the Secretariat on the review of the biennial programme plan, by sectoral, functional and regional bodies (E/AC.51/2016/CRP.1/Rev.1), and clarification was requested for any other proposals to be presented during 2016.

6. Several delegations expressed the view that a succinct overview of the numerous changes made in respect of recently adopted General Assembly resolutions would be useful to the work of the Committee, and in that regard requested that a line-by-line comparison, using the "track changes" feature, between the approved biennial programme plan for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6/Rev.1) and the proposed revisions to the 17 programmes concerned be provided as supplementary information. For changes relating to the activities outlined in Assembly resolution 70/1, delegations requested that, where possible, the paragraphs of the resolution that gave rise to the mandates for those activities be specified. In addition, delegations expressed their intention to seek clarification on specific changes made to the biennial programme plan for the period 2016-2017, during discussions on the strategic framework for the period 2018-2019, so as to take advantage of the presence of relevant programme managers and Secretariat officials.

7. A delegation observed some patterns of changes: those that replaced "the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015", which, in the programme plan of 2014-2015, had been "the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals", with "the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"; those that added a reference to "the 2030 Agenda"; and others that were made on the basis of the decisions of intergovernmental bodies. That delegation stated that it would carefully examine those changes in the first pattern by analysing what had already been built in the Organization for the previous development goals, and it would examine those in the second pattern by scrutinizing the decisions of the intergovernmental bodies to see whether there was any specific reference and mandate corresponding to each of them contained therein.

8. It was underlined that the Secretary-General would report to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-first session on additional resources required to support the implementation of the framework of the 2030 Agenda. In that regard, clarification was sought on the sequencing of proposals for resource requirements prior to the completion of the review of the related programme by the Committee.

9. It was noted that the framework of the 2030 Agenda would extend beyond one biennium, given that it covered a period of 15 years. Therefore, the objectives, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and outcomes would need to evolve in line with the discussions and decisions of Member States at intergovernmental meetings, such as was the case with the forty-ninth session of the Commission on Population and Development. In that regard, clarification was sought as to how the result of ongoing discussions on mandates would be reflected.

10. With regard to programme 6, Legal affairs, clarification was sought on how paragraph 274 of General Assembly resolution 70/235 could be incorporated into subprogramme 4, Law of the sea and ocean affairs.

11. Regarding programme 7, Economic and social affairs, clarification was sought on the proposed changes to the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement and whether those changes resulted from the 2030 Agenda, including the Sustainable Development Goals, or from other substantive reasons. With regard to expected accomplishment (c) of subprogramme 6, Development policy and analysis, the view was expressed that the core principles and objectives of the 2030 Agenda remained to be defined and agreed upon.

12. Regarding programme 10, Trade and development, concern was expressed that an amendment to the legislative mandates of subprogramme 6, Operational aspects of trade promotion and export development, for the period 2016-2017, would be required to reflect the ministerial declaration and decisions adopted by the Tenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Nairobi from 15 to 19 December 2015, which had been reflected in the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019 (see A/71/6 (Prog. 10), para. 10.25). Clarification was sought as to how those decisions would be incorporated into the programme of work of the International Trade Centre.

13. With regard to programme 16, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, appreciation was expressed for the work of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in the area of renewable energy and for its work on energy issues at the regional level. Delegations were supportive of the changes relating to the revision of the conference structure of the Commission, namely, establishing a Committee on Energy as a part of its subsidiary structure establishing a new subprogramme 9, Energy, given that they reflected earlier decisions emanating from an intergovernmental process (see Economic and Social Council resolution 2015/30 and General Assembly resolution 70/248 A, sect. XVI). Clarification was sought, however, regarding the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement to be rephrased to reflect the framework of the 2030 Agenda, given that access to sources of energy was one of the Sustainable Development Goals. Furthermore, clarification was also sought on the procedural aspects of sequencing the change to the strategic framework and seeking the associated approvals for related resources. In addition, clarification was sought regarding the intergovernmental mandate for the first Asian and Pacific Energy Forum, held in Vladivostok, Russian Federation, from 27 to 30 May 2013.

14. Regarding programme 20, Human rights, the view was expressed that the proposed expected accomplishment and indicators of achievement were so vague and broad that they would encompass all the activities of the United Nations. They appeared more reflective of human rights in general rather than the right to development, as indicated in the title of subprogramme 1, Human rights mainstreaming, right to development, and research and analysis. Additional clarification was requested in that regard.

Conclusions and recommendations

15. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the changes to programme 3, Disarmament, programme 6, Legal affairs, programme 7, Economic and social affairs, programme 8, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, programme 9, United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development, programme 10, Trade and development, programme 11,**

Environment, programme 12, Human settlements, programme 13, International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice, programme 14, Gender equality and empowerment of women, programme 15, Economic and social development in Africa, programme 16, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, programme 17, Economic development in Europe, programme 18, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, programme 19, Economic and social development in Western Asia, programme 20, Human rights, and programme 22, Palestine refugees, as set out in the report of the Secretary-General (A/71/85), subject to the following modifications:

Programme 6
Legal affairs

Subprogramme 4
Law of the sea and ocean affairs

Indicators of achievement

In indicator (b) (ii), delete "; and the implementation of the oceans-related goals in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

Strategy

Paragraph 9

Delete "and the implementation of the oceans-related goals in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

Programme 7
Economic and Social Affairs

Subprogramme 1
Economic and Social Council support and coordination

Objective of the Organization

At the end of the objective, insert "and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda".

Programme 8
Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

Subprogramme 1
Least developed countries

Objective of the Organization

Insert "and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda" after "Sustainable Development".

Programme 10
Trade and development

Subprogramme 6
Operational aspects of trade promotion and export development

Strategy

Paragraph 38

Replace "the Doha, Hong Kong and Geneva ministerial declarations adopted by WTO" with "WTO ministerial declarations, including the ministerial declaration and decisions of the Tenth Ministerial Conference of WTO, held in Nairobi from 15 to 19 December 2015".

Programme 16
Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific

Subprogramme 2
Trade and investment

Strategy

Paragraph 67

After "technology transfer", add "on mutually agreed terms and conditions".

Paragraph 68

Delete "including the World Trade Organization Bali package and further agreements on the outstanding issues of the Doha Development Agenda".

Delete "including paperless trade systems".

After "technology transfer", add "on mutually agreed terms and conditions".

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Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019
(*Item 3 (b) (ii)*)

Programme 2
Political affairs

1. At its 15th meeting, on 8 June 2016, the Committee considered programme 2, Political affairs, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019 (A/71/6 (Prog. 2) and Corr.1). The Committee also had before it a note by the Secretariat on the proposed strategic framework, contained in conference room paper E/AC.51/2016/CRP.1/Rev.1.

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Appreciation and support were expressed for the programme and for the important work carried out in the area of maintenance of international peace and security by the various entities under the programme.

4. Delegations expressed their support for the work of the Department of Political Affairs, in particular in the areas of conflict prevention and mediation. The delegations also expressed the need for the Department to continue to work with regional and subregional organizations in supporting mediation activities so as to ensure their ownership of the processes.

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5. Delegations also stressed that improvement in the capacity of the United Nations to prevent and resolve conflicts was a better investment than dealing with the cost of armed conflict and its aftermath.

6. Delegations noted that multiple United Nations entities were involved in the mediation efforts in Africa, and stressed the need for the Secretary-General to bring synergies and avoid overlap and duplication of efforts.

7. Information was sought on the source and mandate for the use of the phrase "preventative diplomacy". The view was expressed that the implementation of preventive diplomacy was currently being discussed by the Security Council and was a sensitive matter, and that the use of it to address issues relating to international peace and security should be through an impartial approach. It was also pointed out that "other organizations", mentioned in paragraphs 2.1 and 2.5, needed to be elaborated and clarified. The view was also expressed that resident coordinators should not be assigned political roles.

8. Clarification was sought on the basis and the legislative mandate for the proposed splitting of subprogramme 1, Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts, into two subprogrammes, and whether any functional body had reviewed the proposal. The question was raised as to whether the proposal was consistent with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2016/6), and whether it carried an expectation of an increase in the overall number of activities. With reference to ongoing discussions in the Fifth Committee on a request for additional resources for the Department of Political Affairs, a delegation sought clarification on whether the proposal contained in the strategic framework did not prejudge the outcome of those discussions. It was recalled that reviews had been carried out recently on mediation and prevention capacities, and, in that context, clarifications were sought on how the Department planned to strengthen mediation and prevention activities, build synergies and overcome possible duplication of efforts with other entities involved in those areas.

9. Views were expressed that the emphasis on the quantitative approach to the formulation of some indicators of achievement, with particular regard to subprogrammes 1 and 2, did not sufficiently emphasize the impact or results to be achieved, while the formulation of other indicators of achievement did not indicate progress or an improvement. Views were also expressed with regard to the challenge of measuring the qualitative aspects of the work of the programme.

10. With regard to subprogramme 1, Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts, it was noted that indicators of achievement (a) (iii) and (iv) did not reflect any achievement as such, and needed improvement. Clarification was sought on the meaning of "emerging crisis situations" in indicator of achievement (a) (iv). Information was also sought on how indicator of achievement (b), Increased percentage of all requests of Member States and regional organizations in support of the peace process having resulted in preventing, mitigating or resolving conflict situations, would be measured by the Department of Political Affairs and how the information would be used to adjust the Department's activities in the future. Information was further sought on why the reference to monitoring and evaluation of the impact and the cost-effectiveness of key conflict prevention and mitigation initiatives, mentioned in paragraph 2.7 of programme 2 of the biennial programme plan for the period 2016-2017, had been deleted.

11. With regard to the new Gender Unit under subprogramme 2, Policy and mediation support, views were expressed in support and appreciation of its establishment, as well as the activities relating to strengthening the role of women in the maintenance of peace and security. Clarification was sought on the Unit's role and how it would build on Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), as well as on the existing gender advisers and the interface with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women while ensuring that there would be no overlap in functions. It was suggested that firm targets be established for the role of women in mediation.

12. Concerning subprogramme 3, Electoral assistance, the view was expressed that the objective contained in the biennial programme plan for the period 2016-2017 was accurate and did not need to be revised. It was noted that requests for assistance relating to elections should come from Member States, not field missions. The view was expressed that electoral assistance should be considered a crisis prevention activity, as support provided to establish more reliable electoral systems could avoid recurring crises, and that the crisis prevention role of electoral assistance was not adequately reflected in the framework.

13. Concerning subprogramme 4, Security Council affairs, the use of the term "other participants" in expected accomplishment (a) needed clarification. Concern was expressed with regard to the use of the term "substantive advice" in paragraph 2.15, as it might be interpreted as influencing the work of experts who were appointed in their individual and professional capacities.

14. Regarding subprogramme 5, Decolonization, the view was expressed that the objective contained in the biennial programme plan for the period 2016-2017 was accurate and did not need to be revised. It was pointed out that proposed indicator of achievement (ii), Improved communication between the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the administering Powers, was vague and difficult to measure. Clarification was sought in particular on the meaning of "administering Powers".

15. With regard to subprogramme 6, Question of Palestine, clarification was sought on the revised expected accomplishment for 2018-2019, in particular on the removal of the phrase "and the Division for Palestinian Rights" from the expected accomplishment.

16. Concerning subprogramme 7, Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, it was pointed out that the use of the term "violent extremism" in indicator of achievement (a) and the linkage of the subprogramme to the mandate needed to be clarified. The view was expressed that Security Council resolutions 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014) and 2199 (2015), pertaining to counter-terrorism, should be included in the list of legislative mandates. Clarification was sought on the mandate and responsibility for the establishment of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre.

17. With regard to subprogramme 8, Office of the United Nations Special Coordination for the Middle East Peace Process, the view was expressed that the reference to Member States in the last sentence of paragraph 2.21 of the strategy should not be limited only to those in the Arab world, and that the formulation should read "Member States, especially in the Arab world". Clarification was sought on the meaning of "Palestinian priorities and systems", described in paragraph 2.22.

18. With regard to subprogramme 9, Peacebuilding Support Office, the view was expressed that the objective contained in the biennial programme plan for the period 2016-2017 was accurate and did not need to be revised. It was pointed out that most of the indicators of achievement, as formulated, did not provide an indication of progress, and that the formulation of the indicators of achievement should include language so providing. The view was expressed that specific references should be made to Security Council resolution 2282 (2016) and General Assembly resolution 70/262 in paragraph 2.26 of the strategy, and that the resolutions should be included in the list of legislative mandates.

19. Concerning subprogramme 10, United Nations Register of Damage Caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, clarification was sought on the expected rate of collection of claim forms, in particular why the phrase "about 80 per cent" had been replaced with the words "the majority" in paragraph 2.30 of the strategy.

20. Regarding subprogramme 11, United Nations Office to the African Union, clarification was sought on the exclusion of a reference to the Office in the overall orientation for the framework. Clarity was also sought regarding challenges encountered from the dichotomy of funding the Office through extrabudgetary resources and the support account for peacekeeping and the value of consolidating the resource requirements under the programme budget.

Conclusions and recommendations

21. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 2, Political Affairs, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 2.1

In the first sentence, replace "under the direction of" with "the resolutions emanating from".

Replace the second sentence with:

"The direction of the programme is provided in the pertinent resolutions of the Assembly and the mandates of the Council, which has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security."

Paragraph 2.2

In the first sentence, replace the words "the best foundation" with "a sound foundation".

Replace the last sentence with:

"The Department will continue to support Member States in their efforts towards the prevention of armed conflicts through means of diplomacy, sustaining peace and peacebuilding, including in partnership with international, regional and subregional organizations, international financial institutions, civil society

organizations, women's groups, youth organizations and the private sector, taking into account national priorities and policies, in accordance with relevant mandates."

Paragraph 2.4

Delete paragraph 2.4 and renumber subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

Paragraph 2.4 (formerly 2.5)

Replace the second, third and fourth sentences with:

"The Department of Political Affairs will continue to strive to reinforce the capacity of Member States, the international community and regional organizations for preventive diplomacy, good offices and non-military measures to prevent potentially violent disputes from escalating into conflicts, as well as to resolve violent conflicts that have erupted, while fully respecting the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Member States and the principle of non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State, as well as respecting the principle of consent, which is an essential element for the success of such efforts."

Subprogramme 1
Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts

Replace the objectives of the Organization, expected accomplishments of the Secretariat, indicators of achievement and strategies of subprogramme 1, Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts, and subprogramme 2, Policy and mediation support, with:

"Subprogramme 1
Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts

Objective of the Organization: **To promote international peace and security through prevention, management and resolution of conflicts by peaceful means**	
Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	***Indicators of achievement***
(a) Improved capacity and capability of Member States to identify, prevent and address conflict situations	**(i) 100 per cent response to all requests of Member States and regional organizations for preventive action**
	(ii) Number of good offices efforts to address conflict situations where the United Nations was asked to assist
	(iii) Increased percentage of women in mediation efforts where the United Nations is involved

Objective of the Organization: To promote international peace and security through prevention, management and resolution of conflicts by peaceful means	
Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	***Indicators of achievement***
(b) Effective maintenance of peace processes	**(i) Increased percentage of all requests of Member States and regional organizations in support of the peace process having resulted in preventing, mitigating or resolving conflict situations** **(ii) Increased number of peacebuilding projects implemented in support of efforts to prevent, manage or resolve conflicts**

Strategy

2.7 Substantive responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the regional divisions and the Policy and Mediation Division. The Department will promote a more effective and cohesive response to help prevent, mitigate, manage and resolve conflicts and to address peacebuilding challenges facing countries emerging from crisis or conflict by: (a) responding in a timely manner to conflict situations; (b) providing timely and accurate information, analysis and policy options; (c) formulating recommendations on measures that could be undertaken by the United Nations system; (d) making available and providing substantive and technical support to the Secretary-General's good offices, including through formal mediation, where appropriate; (e) providing substantive, political and technical support to the Secretary-General in the discharge of his functions and in his relationships with Member States; (f) enhancing the capacity of regional and subregional organizations; (g) providing substantive support and guidance to special political missions; (h) strengthening the Department's capacity, expertise and partnerships with other United Nations and subregional, regional and international organizations in order to address more effectively peace and security challenges, especially in non-mission settings; (i) undertaking monitoring and evaluation of the impact and the cost-effectiveness of key conflict prevention and mitigation initiatives; (j) undertaking research on peacebuilding issues and best practices; (k) developing coherent strategies for crisis prevention and post-conflict peacebuilding, linking diplomatic, security, humanitarian and developmental efforts by the United Nations system and other international and regional actors; (l) enhancing political and operational links with the Peacebuilding Commission, Support Office and Fund. To this end, the Department of Political Affairs will work closely with other relevant parts of the United Nations system; and (m) empowering women in peacebuilding and mediation efforts."

Renumber subsequent subprogrammes and paragraphs accordingly.

Subprogramme 2 (formerly subprogramme 3)
Electoral assistance

Indicators of achievement

In indicators of achievement (a) (i) and (ii), delete the words "or field missions".

Subprogramme 3 (formerly subprogramme 4)
Security Council affairs

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with:

> **"Improved organizational and procedural aspects of meetings servicing as well as enhanced substantive and technical secretariat support to the Member States and other participants at the mandated meetings".**

Indicators of achievement

At the beginning of indicator of achievement (a), insert "Increased".

Subprogramme 4 (formerly subprogramme 5)
Decolonization

Replace the objective of the Organization, expected accomplishments of the Secretariat and indicators of achievement of the subprogramme with:

Objective of the Organization: **To promote the decolonization process in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions of the General Assembly for the 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to bring about the complete eradication of colonialism**	
Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	***Indicators of achievement***
The Special Committee and the General Assembly will be able to carry out their decolonization mandates and make progress in the decolonization process of the 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories	**(i) Timely submission of parliamentary documents** **(ii) Sustained level of support to the work of the Special Committee in facilitating communication with the administering Powers**

Subprogramme 5 (formerly subprogramme 6)
Question of Palestine

Strategy

Paragraph 2.13 (formerly 2.19)

After the second sentence, insert:

"Supportive action by the United Nations will continue until all aspects of the question of Palestine are resolved in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international law."

Subprogramme 6 (formerly subprogramme 7)
Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force

Indicators of achievement

At the end of indicator of achievement (a), insert "as and when conducive to terrorism".

Subprogramme 7 (formerly subprogramme 8)
Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process

Paragraph 2.16 (formerly 2.22)

In the last sentence, replace "systems" with "institutions".

Subprogramme 8 (formerly subprogramme 9)
Peacebuilding Support Office

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with "To enhance consolidation of peace in post-conflict countries".

Indicators of achievement

At the beginning of indicators of achievement (a) (i), (ii) and (iii), insert "Increased".

Replace indicator of achievement (a) (iv) with:

"Increased percentage of recommendations of General Assembly resolution 70/262 on the review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture and Security Council resolution 2282 (2016) on post-conflict peacebuilding implemented".

At the beginning of indicator of achievement (c), insert the word "Increased".

Paragraph 2.20 (formerly 2.26)

In the first sentence, replace "the resolutions" with "General Assembly resolution 70/262 and Security Council resolution 2282 (2016)".

Legislative mandates

Subprogramme 1
Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts

General Assembly resolutions

Add:

70/109 A world against violence and violent extremism

Subprogramme 9
Peacebuilding Support Office

General Assembly resolutions

Add:

70/262 Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture

Security Council resolutions

Add:

2282 (2016) Post-conflict peacebuilding

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Addendum

Programme questions: programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2014-2015

(*Item 3 (a)*)

Report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2014-2015

1. At its 3rd meeting, on 31 May 2016, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2014-2015 (A/71/75).

2. The Under-Secretary-General for Management introduced the programme performance report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. Delegations expressed their appreciation for the report, terming it useful and interesting and stressing that it constituted an important accountability and management tool in the Organization's results-based-budgeting process. They noted with satisfaction that, by combining a results-based analysis with an output-oriented analysis, a comprehensive overview of how the United Nations had performed during the biennium had been provided.

4. Some delegations expressed the view that the report was overly long and detailed, criticizing the lack of a comprehensive summary. The view was expressed that key sections would benefit from the inclusion of financial information, shorter narrative descriptions and a stronger focus on impacts and results in terms of expected accomplishments and the achievement of outputs.

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5. While partially agreeing with that view, some delegations said that any proposal to change the format of the report must be discussed and approved by the General Assembly. Delegations referred to the importance of the sections on lessons learned while highlighting that departments and offices could make use of those experiences to improve their work in the future.

6. Some delegations remarked on the positive trend reported in the increase in the rate of implementation of mandated outputs from 91 per cent during the biennium 2012-2013 to 94 per cent during the biennium 2014-2015. Clarification was sought as to whether that increase had led to any qualitative deterioration. Suggesting that some departments had reported lower-than-expected implementation rates in previous bienniums owing mainly to reasons beyond their control, a delegation suggested that a more realistic approach should be taken when preparing the strategic frameworks, notably their indicators.

7. Concerning the additional outputs, a delegation noted that, according to the report, during the biennium 2014-2015, 61 per cent of the total number of additions had been required by intergovernmental bodies, while the remaining 39 per cent had been initiated by the Secretariat. Clarification was sought regarding the latter, notably what was the assessment of those additional outputs and how Member States would verify that those discretionary outputs had been derived from legislative mandates.

8. Clarification was sought as to a specific mandate for the implementation of the Human Rights Up Front policy by the Secretary-General, as reported under section 24, Human rights, in addition to the reasons for the substantial increase in the number of discretionary outputs under the section. Information was also sought on challenges and lessons learned under section 27, Humanitarian assistance, notably what were the four simultaneous level-III emergencies that had strained the surge mechanisms of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and what countries had been assisted by the Office in response to major emergencies during the biennium. Furthermore, information was sought as to the reasons for the disparity in the number of outputs reported as implemented by the regional commissions, especially in circumstances in which the scope and nature of the work shared similar characteristics.

9. While the positive results reported through the global survey on the PaperSmart initiative were noted, the view was expressed that the Secretariat should continue to provide information on the impact of the reduction in the number of printed documents on the intergovernmental decision-making process at United Nations meetings and conferences. It was emphasized that the Secretariat had an obligation to make available all documentation for intergovernmental discussions in printed format.

Conclusions and recommendations

10. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2014-2015 (A/71/75).**

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Addendum

Coordination questions: report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

(*Item 4 (a)*)

Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2015

1. At its 3rd meeting, on 31 May 2016, the Committee considered the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) for 2015 (E/2016/56).

2. The Acting Secretary of CEB and Director of the secretariat of CEB introduced the report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. Delegations welcomed the report, expressing appreciation for its quality, precision and thoroughness. Several delegations noted the important contribution of CEB in coordinating the work of the United Nations system, including in implementing administrative and management initiatives. The Board's role was seen as vital to avoiding duplication and to strengthening programme effectiveness. More detail on the Board's efforts to publicize its work and enhance transparency was sought.

4. There was strong agreement on the need to ensure that the work of CEB continued to be aligned with Member State priorities and guided by

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intergovernmental mandates. In that context, concern was expressed that CEB was undertaking initiatives for which no intergovernmental mandate existed, and it was stressed that any initiative must be presented to the relevant governing bodies of the United Nations system before being implemented (for example, in the area of procurement). It was stressed that each organization had its own rules and procedures which needed to be adhered to. Another delegation expressed its confidence that CEB was operating within the framework of mandates provided by Member States. In particular, it was recognized that CEB had both the mandate and the responsibility to show initiative and creativity in looking for ways to maximize coherence and efficiency, and the flexible approach through which CEB had carried out its work to date was welcomed. In addition, it was noted that the capacity to take initiative was crucial, and CEB was encouraged to be proactive in improving the efficiency and coordination of the United Nations system.

5. The Board's important role in supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was highlighted, in particular to ensure the maximum efficiency and coherence of the system, to avoid overlap and to make sure that each entity contributed effectively within its own mandate to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. Referring to information provided in the report that CEB, in 2015, had taken steps towards supporting Member States in the transition to and implementation of the 2030 Agenda and enhancing policy coherence in the United Nations system, it was highlighted that implementation had not yet begun in 2015 and that CEB seemed to have taken decisions on matters not yet discussed by Member States. The view was expressed that CEB should take an active, leading role in strengthening system-wide coherence and integrated programmatic coordination in supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and should avoid a piecemeal approach. Noting the lessons that had been learned from the CEB review of implementation of the Millennium Development Goals at the country level, a delegation expressed its expectation that a flexible and integrated approach to supporting the 2030 Agenda that capitalized on the diversity and specialized strengths of individual organizations of the United Nations system would be pursued.

6. As the annual overview report covered only activities in 2015, the Acting Secretary was requested to provide an update on CEB activities carried out so far in 2016 towards ensuring coherence of the United Nations system in support of the Sustainable Development Goals. Welcoming the commitment of CEB to respecting national ownership of the 2030 Agenda, a delegation enquired about the form of support that the United Nations system was providing to countries that requested assistance in integrating the Sustainable Development Goals in national policies.

7. Questions were raised about the focus of the work of the High-level Committee on Programmes in 2015 with regard to supporting Member States in the transition to and implementation of an integrated and transformative sustainable development agenda, namely on inequality, human rights, preventing conflict and promoting peaceful, just and inclusive societies. In that context, it was emphasized that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development took a broader approach and that all Goals needed to be considered by CEB as part of the integrated, indivisible and balanced Agenda. Several delegations stressed the need for a balanced approach and stressed that CEB needed to implement the will of Member States as provided in the mandate. Reassurances were sought that the Board was making efforts to support the implementation the 2030 Agenda in full. Highlighting the mandate in the 2030 Agenda

recognizing that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, was the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, a delegation observed that the annual overview report did not give the impression that poverty reduction had been addressed by CEB in robust terms. Another delegation expressly stated that it had no difficulty with the issues addressed by the High-level Committee on Programmes.

8. One delegation stated that it took note with interest of paragraph 26 of the report, in which it was stated that the Board had held a discussion on lessons learned from the initiative to accelerate the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals that could be applied in the context of supporting implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and particularly that the Board agreed, in pursuing the Sustainable Development Goals, on the necessity to take a similarly flexible and integrated approach that capitalized on the diversity and specialized strengths of individual organizations of the United Nations system. That delegation stressed that it expected CEB to take an active role in leading in an integrated approach towards the implementation of a cross-programme and cross-entity agenda, including the 2030 Agenda, by identifying where the activities and related capacities had already been built into the Organization, particularly those that had been devoted to support for the Millennium Development Goals, and by building on them, while avoiding a piecemeal approach or requesting resources in bulk without examining the existing capacities.

9. A number of comments and questions were raised in relation to United Nations conferences and summits. Specifically, questions were raised about the role of CEB in the preparation of and follow-up to the third International Conference on Financing for Development, which was seen as an important policy framework to finance the Sustainable Development Goals. Disappointment was expressed at the lack of analysis and information provided on the matter in the report compared with other intergovernmental processes, such as the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the 2030 Agenda. Appreciation was expressed for the fact that indigenous peoples' issues were visible in the Board's work through the support of CEB for the system-wide action plan to ensure a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Board was also thanked for the important work done at the twenty-first meeting of the Conference of the Parties and its contribution to the successful outcome of the United Nations Climate Change Conference. Clarification was sought as to whether there had been any activities undertaken by CEB in 2015 to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

10. Several delegations expressed their support for the work of the High-level Committee on Management in identifying opportunities for efficiencies and eliminating duplication across the United Nations system through greater collaboration on management issues. The view was expressed that CEB was uniquely well placed to promote and work through administrative and management reform ideas that could be replicated throughout the system. A delegation welcomed how that had been done to date and encouraged further reporting on such initiatives in the future. The positive contribution that CEB made through the Human Resources Network of the High-level Committee on Management towards coordinating United Nations system input to the comprehensive review by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) of the

United Nations common system compensation package for staff in the Professional and higher categories was noted.

11. Comments were expressed regarding the activities related to system-wide procurement. Some delegations welcomed the initiatives that had been pursued under the auspices of CEB and expressed satisfaction at seeing the number of vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition increase. At the same time, enquiry was made about the mandate for various activities in that area, including the long-term agreements and enhanced collaboration in the area of procurement, and it was stressed that procurement initiatives should fully respect the rules and procedures of each entity and needed to be reviewed and considered by Member States. Clarification was sought as to whether the number of registered vendors from developing countries and countries in transition was the only indicator of an increase in procurement activity. Information was also sought on the overall percentage of vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the total volume of procurement in the United Nations system. Statistics on that, as well as elaboration on the nature of goods and services that they provided, were requested. There was also an enquiry as to whether procurement documents were published in French to afford vendors from francophone countries the same ability to access procurement opportunities.

12. With respect to other activities carried out by the High-level Committee on Management, more information on common banking agreements was requested, including the source of the mandate to conclude such agreements and details on their substance.

13. A delegation also queried whether the United Nations system data catalogue was available in multiple languages. Expanding on the point, questions were raised concerning what activities were being carried out under the auspices of CEB to promote multilingualism across the United Nations system and whether there were active focal points within the organizations. It was noted that the issue was particularly pertinent to recruitment, and in that context it was recalled that some ICSC members had encouraged organizations to recognize language proficiency through performance evaluation systems.

14. A number of questions were raised about the activities of the United Nations Development Group. Citing the compilation of good practices on South-South and triangular cooperation as an important and interesting initiative, a delegation queried when it would become available and whether it would be shared with United Nations resident coordinators, as well as with national Governments. An update on the Joint Operations Facility in Brazil, including any benefits that it had delivered, was sought. More detail was also requested on the partnership between the United Nations and the World Bank in fragile and conflict-affected countries, including the source of the mandate.

Conclusions and recommendations

15. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly take note of the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2015 (E/2016/56).**

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Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019
(*Item 3 (b) (ii)*)

Programme 24
Public information

1. At its 20th and 21st meetings, on 13 June 2016, the Committee considered programme 24, Public information, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019 (A/71/6 (Prog. 24)). The Committee also had before it a note by the Secretariat on the proposed strategic framework, contained in conference room paper E/AC.51/2016/CRP.1/Rev.1.

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Views were expressed in support of the programme and the important work carried out by the Department of Public Information. It was emphasized that the dissemination of information on the work of the United Nations reinforced the support for and the importance of the work of the Organization. Particular appreciation was expressed for the regional and national presences of the Department and the important work of the United Nations information centres.

4. The special role and function of the Department was highlighted in that it cooperated with and worked for the benefit of not only Member States but also the

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entire Secretariat. In that regard, it was suggested that the collaboration between the Department in New York and offices away from Headquarters, in particular regional commissions, should be strengthened.

5. As to the methodology of the framework, it was pointed out that the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement must reflect the performance of the programme, not those of other actors, in particular Member States. In addition, it was indicated that in the absence of performance measures in the strategic framework, it was unclear how to undertake a proper assessment of accomplishments, which rendered the task difficult.

6. Under subprogramme 1, Strategic communications services, information was sought on the criteria used to identify the "target audiences" referred to in indicator of achievement (c) (i).

7. Emphasis was placed on the fundamental role of civil society and appreciation was expressed for the work done by the Department in that regard, including most recently in the context of the Annual Conference of the Department of Public Information for Non-Governmental Organizations, held in the Republic of Korea in June 2016. The Department was encouraged to find creative and innovative solutions regarding its work with the private sector. Clarification was sought on the meaning of "non-governmental organizations formally associated with the Department of Public Information" in indicator of achievement (a) (i) of subprogramme 3, Outreach and knowledge services.

8. The importance of multilingualism was highlighted by many delegations, including the need to disseminate information about the United Nations in all six official languages and beyond. It was stressed that the concept must be clearly recognized throughout the entire programme. While recognizing and appreciating progress made in the area, delegations emphasized the need to continue to improve the production and dissemination of information in all United Nations official languages.

9. In that connection, serious concern was expressed at the deletion of references to multilingualism in some parts of the strategic framework, in particular as they had only been incorporated by the Committee into the framework at the previous session. Some delegations expressed disagreement with the explanation provided by the Secretariat, namely the lack of resources owing to the decision of the General Assembly on the resources of the Department for the biennium 2016-2017, and it was emphasized that Member States expected resolutions, in particular the resolution on multilingualism, to be implemented in full. It was stressed that it was not the prerogative of the Secretariat to change mandates by the Assembly and assurances were sought that the Secretariat would undertake measures and find innovative approaches to implement the mandate provided. It was also stressed that the decision on resources for the biennium 2016-2017 should not be used as justification for the removal of references to multilingualism and the six official languages from the proposed strategic framework for 2018-2019, as there was still time to seek further resources and consult with Member States on the ways to implement the mandate. It was also recalled that a coordinator for multilingualism in the Secretariat had recently been appointed and the suggestion was made that the Department should consult with the coordinator on ways to implement the mandate.

10. It was noted that the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019 placed heavy emphasis on new media resources, such as social media or web resources. While recognizing their importance, caution was expressed against overlooking traditional media, in particular in light of the fact that a wide segment of the public still depended on traditional media for information. In that regard, concern was expressed at the deletion of certain indicators of achievement from the proposed strategic framework.

11. Information was sought on the activities of the Department with regard to the observance of international days and appreciation was expressed for the priority given to them by the Department as well as the wide range of activities undertaken. Appreciation was also expressed for the Department's role in relation to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Paris in 2015, in particular the signing ceremony, and it was stressed that the follow-up to the Conference must be accessible.

12. Information was sought as to how General Assembly resolutions 70/93 A and B, on questions relating to information, were reflected in the framework, notably the provisions of resolution 70/93 B, paragraph 16, on the critical need to address violations of the relevant international rules and regulations that govern the area of broadcasting, including television, radio and satellite broadcasting, in the most appropriate manner.

Conclusions and recommendations

13. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of programme 24, Public information, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 24.4

Delete the last sentence.

Paragraph 24.5

In the first sentence, insert "with an overall emphasis on multilingualism from the planning stage" after "in its work". Add new paragraph 24.6 to read "The Department emphasizes the importance of the equality of the six official languages of the United Nations, with a view to ensuring their full and equitable treatment in the activities of the Department".

Renumber the following paragraphs.

Subprogramme 1
Strategic communications services

Objective of the Organization

Insert "principles" after "work".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) with "Increased percentage of articles that contain United Nations messages on priorities decided upon by Member States". In indicator of achievement (b), insert "and traditional" after "social".

At the end of indicator of achievement (c) (ii), insert "overall and per official language".

Subprogramme 2
News services

Objective of the Organization

Insert "principles" after "work".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with "Increased utilization by media organizations and other users of news, information and related multimedia products about the United Nations that are produced in all six official languages".

Replace expected accomplishment (b) with "Timely access by news organizations and other users to daily meeting-coverage press releases, television packages, photos and other information products in all six official languages".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) (i) with "Increased number of users of Internet-based United Nations products overall and per official language".

Add new indicator of achievement (a) (iv) to read "Increased partnerships with radio and television broadcasters and rebroadcasters, by language (official and non-official) and by region".

Replace indicator of achievement (b) with "Maintenance of the current percentage of news products meeting deadlines to ensure their relevance to end users in all six official languages".

Strategy

Paragraph 24.11

In the second sentence, replace "if necessary" with "as necessary".

Paragraph 24.13

In the second sentence, insert "and quantity" after "quality".

Insert "with a view to covering all six official languages on an equitable basis" after "language".

Subprogramme 3
Outreach and knowledge services

Objective of the Organization

Insert "principles" after "work".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), insert "multilingual information" after "United Nations".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) (i) with "Increased number of non-governmental organizations from developing countries and countries with economies in transition receiving information from the Department". In indicator of achievement (a) (iii), insert "in all six official languages" after "activities".

At the end of indicator of achievement (b) (ii), insert "overall and per official language".

Strategy

Paragraph 24.16

In the first sentence, insert "multilingual" after "to develop new".

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Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019
(*Item 3 (b) (ii)*)

Programme 7
Economic and social affairs

1. At its 19th meeting, on 10 June 2016, the Committee considered programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019 (A/71/6 (Prog. 7)). The Committee also had before it a note by the Secretariat on the proposed strategic framework, contained in conference room paper E/AC.51/2016/CRP.1/Rev.1.

2. The Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Support and appreciation were expressed for the work of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and for the development pillar as a whole. Reference was made to important milestones reached in the course of the previous year, in particular the agreement on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development. Delegations welcomed the inclusion of the two Agendas into the proposed strategic framework,

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and information was sought as to how the Department planned to reorient its activities and resources to support Member States in implementing the related activities. Taking into consideration complementarities and synergies between the various areas of work of the Department, information was sought on the potential to free up capacity to devote more attention to supporting Member States in their implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

4. The view was expressed that the implementation of the two Agendas needed to take into account uncompleted commitments, including the Millennium Development Goals, and that development was an ongoing process.

5. The role of the regional commissions was underlined, given their clear intermediary role in the promotion of development, and information was sought on the nature of coordination between the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the regional commissions, particularly with regard to a coordinated implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Likewise, emphasis was placed on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the national level, including the preparation of national development plans.

6. Concern was expressed by a delegation at the seemingly unequal treatment of the activities related to the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda compared with that of the 2030 Agenda, and it was emphasized that both should be reflected throughout the programme. While recognizing common elements between the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the 2030 Agenda, a delegation highlighted that the former was an independent mandate and that, therefore, the strategic framework should clearly indicate the activities that the Secretariat intended to undertake for the two Agendas. In that respect, the suggestion was made to have a specific chapter on follow-up activities to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. Concern was also expressed at the seeming overemphasis on Sustainable Development Goal 16, Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and emphasis was made on the fundamental principle of the Agenda that no one Goal had supremacy over the other.

7. Under subprogramme 1, Economic and Social Council support and coordination, a questions was raised concerning the use of the term "global development emergencies and crises", particularly since that concept was not part of the 2030 Agenda. While recognizing that post-conflict peacebuilding formed part of Sustainable Development Goal 16, information was sought on the specific Council mandates relating to the issue.

8. Under subprogramme 3, Sustainable development, it was noted that the programme assigned the Secretariat a role in producing the *Global Sustainable Development Report*. In that connection, a question was raised as to whether the mandate for the Secretariat to carry out that output was still valid, particularly in view of plans by the Economic and Social Council to engage a group of independent experts to carry out a study leading to a report. Information was also sought on expected accomplishment (b), in particular how the Department would provide support to Member States.

9. Several clarifications were sought regarding subprogramme 4, Statistics, including (a) why — in the effort to avoid duplication of efforts — there was no mention of coordination or cooperation with other international organizations that

either produced or disseminated statistics; (b) the definition of the word "race" in paragraph 7.10 (d) of the strategy; and (c) the reason for having multiple levels of disaggregation, including what the mandate was and what need it addressed.

10. Concern was expressed at changes made to subprogramme 4, with the argument that several important elements that had been included in the previous formulation had been deleted. While recognizing the urge to "aim higher", a delegation cautioned against changing targets if previous goals had not yet been achieved. Concern was also expressed at the part of the strategy set out in paragraph 7.10 (b), namely that the Department would assist countries in building and managing sustainable national statistical systems with "appropriate governance structures". It was stressed that this went beyond the mandate of the Statistics Division, as it was for Member States to assess if their governance structure was adequate, and the Division ought to provide assistance to all States requesting it.

Conclusions and recommendations

11. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure that, in order to achieve its objective of assisting Member States in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals, the programme is realigned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, in line with established procedures.**

12. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 7.3

In the second sentence, replace "assistance in capacity development to support the implementation of global conference outcomes at the country level" with "assistance in capacity development to support, as requested, the implementation of global conference outcomes at the country level".

Subprogramme 1
Economic and Social Council support and coordination

Objective of the Organization

At the end of the objective of the Organization, insert "and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

At the end of expected accomplishment (a), insert ", including through the high-level political forum on sustainable development".

At the end of expected accomplishment (b), insert "and the outcomes of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on financing for development".

Indicators of achievement

Add two new indicators of achievement, reading:

"(a) (iv) Increased percentage of national focal points involved in United Nations country-level work participating in the operational activities segment"

"(a) (v) Increase in the number of stakeholders participating in the Development Cooperation Forum"

Add three new indicators of achievement, reading:

"(b) (vi) All subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council take action in response to its policy coordination initiatives and documents, where appropriate"

"(b) (vii) Increase in the number of subsidiary bodies and United Nations funds and programmes and specialized agencies that provide recommendations and technical guidance on how the Economic and Social Council can integrate their perspectives into the larger picture of sustainable development"

"(b) (viii) Increase in the number of United Nations system organizations preparing an action plan for the implementation of General Assembly and Economic and Social Council guidance on operational activities for development and developing strategic plans according to the General Assembly quadrennial comprehensive policy review"

Replace indicator of achievement (c) (i) with "Increase in the number of recommendations and decisions of the Economic and Social Council on long-term development situations of post-conflict countries".

Strategy

Paragraph 7.7

In subparagraph (a), after "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", insert "and the outcomes of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on financing for development".

Replace subparagraph (b) with the following:

"(b) Promoting policy coherence and effectiveness among the development activities of different development actors and strengthening the links between the normative and operational work of the United Nations, and contributing to enhanced monitoring and accountability with respect to development cooperation commitments, through the Development Cooperation Forum;"

Replace subparagraph (i) with the following:

"(i) Promoting a comprehensive and integrated approach to the follow-up to and implementation of the major United Nations conferences and summits, especially the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, in the work of the

high-level political forum and the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council, by supporting the Council's oversight and coordination role over the work of its subsidiary bodies and its functional commissions;"

Delete subparagraph (j).

Renumber the following subparagraph.

Subprogramme 2
Social policy and development

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with "To strengthen international cooperation in the area of social development and promote greater social inclusion and well-being for all".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (b) with "Increased knowledge of and acquired skills for implementing social policies at the national and community levels with a view to strengthening the capacity of Member States in this regard".

Replace expected accomplishment (c) with "Increased awareness by Governments, civil society, the United Nations system and the private sector of social development analysis".

Indicators of achievement

Insert new indicator of achievement (b) (i), reading "Increase in the number of national personnel trained to implement social policies at the national and community levels and the number of persons declaring intent to use the knowledge and skills acquired in their work".

Number the existing indicator as (b) (ii).

Insert two new indicators of achievement, reading:

"(c) (iii) Increase in the number of visits to and downloads from the website of the Division for Social Policy and Development to obtain United Nations research and analysis information"

"(c) (iv) Increase in the number of citations of the two flagship reports of the Division in major international newspapers and academic journals, as well as in publications of other entities of the United Nations system"

Strategy

Paragraph 7.8

In subparagraph (b), after "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,", add "the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,".

Add a new subparagraph (f), reading:

"(f) Facilitating deliberations and actions of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly; facilitating agreements on policy recommendations for eradicating poverty, generating employment, reducing inequality and promoting social integration; and directing increased attention to the social pillar of sustainable development."

Subprogramme 3
Sustainable development

Objective of the Organization

At the end of the objective of the Organization, insert ", and the commitments in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with "Effective review of an agreement by Member States on actions to advance the implementation of agreed outcomes of major United Nations conferences on sustainable development, particularly the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development".

Replace expected accomplishment (c) with "Enhanced capacity of developing countries, including small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition to formulate and implement strategies, policies, frameworks and programmes in support of sustainable development, with a special focus on gender equality and empowerment of women".

Add expected accomplishment (d), reading "Increased accessibility of information, understanding and knowledge of policy options, practical measures and concrete actions needed for the adoption and implementation of sustainable development at the local, national, regional and international levels".

Indicators of achievement

Insert new indicator of achievement (c) (ii), reading "Increased percentage of participants from Member States providing positive feedback on the support provided by the Secretariat".

Insert two new indicators of achievement, reading:

"(d) (i) Increase in the number of inputs by Member States into databases on partnerships, voluntary commitments, best practices and lessons learned"

"(d) (ii) Increase in the number of visits to and downloads from the website of the Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform and its related social media forums to obtain information, documentation and publications"

Strategy

Paragraph 7.9

In subparagraph (a), after "Sustainable Development Goals," insert "the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,".

In subparagraph (b), after "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", insert "and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda".

In subparagraph (f), replace "culminating in" with "aimed at supporting the elaboration of".

Subprogramme 4
Statistics

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with "To advance the global statistical and geospatial information system in order to produce high-quality, easily accessible comparable national statistics and geospatial information systems for policymakers and other users at the national and international levels".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

At the end of expected accomplishment (b), insert "including by coordinating with national statistical entities of Member States".

Replace expected accomplishment (c) with "Strengthened capacity of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, to routinely collect, compile, store, analyse and disseminate official statistics and indicators in the economic, social, demographic and environmental fields, to produce high-quality data, including data disaggregated by sex, for policymakers and the public in general".

Indicators of achievement

At the end of indicator of achievement (a) (i), insert "high-level forums, workshops, expert group meetings and seminars".

Replace indicator of achievement (c) (ii) with "Increase in the number of countries that have received guidelines and capacity development support for developing and implementing sustainable national statistical systems".

Strategy

Paragraph 7.10

Replace subparagraph (g) with the following:

"(g) Coordinating international statistical activities by cooperating with other international organizations to enhance the coordinated system of international statistical work, including the development of standards and methods, the provision of technical support services

and the dissemination of consistent, high-quality data and indicators; and, in particular, enhancing coherence in the statistical data work of the entire United Nations system."

Subprogramme 5
Population

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with "To strengthen the international community's capacity to effectively address current and emerging population issues and to integrate the population dimensions into the international development agenda".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (b) with "Effectively facilitate review by Member States and other stakeholders of progress made in the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and of relevant instruments of the United Nations development agenda, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda".

Strategy

Paragraph 7.11

At the end of subparagraph (d), insert ", including by coordinating with national statistical entities of Member States".

Subprogramme 6
Development policy and analysis

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with "To facilitate the reaching of intergovernmental agreement on the economic policies and actions necessary at the national and international levels to improve long-term development prospects by strengthening the international debate on new and emerging economic development issues and challenges and on the world economic situation".

Strategy

Paragraph 7.12

In subparagraph (a), after "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", insert "and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,".

Replace subparagraph (f) with the following:

"(f) Analysing macroeconomic policies for development; providing assistance to developing countries in strengthening their capacity to apply instruments for policy analysis and monitoring systems in support of their national development strategies aimed at achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the United

Nations development agenda beyond 2015, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, with adequate consideration given to promoting gender equality; and supporting the integrated implementation framework through monitoring of the commitments made in support of the internationally agreed development goals by Member States and other international stakeholders;"

Subprogramme 7
Public administration and development management

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with "To foster effective, efficient, transparent, accountable, innovative and citizen-centred public governance, administration and services for sustainable development".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with "Increased capacities of Member States for the implementation of policies and programmes in public administration".

Replace expected accomplishment (c) with "Increased capacities of Member States for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, with a focus on gender equality and the empowerment of women in public policy".

Subprogramme 9
Financing for development

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with "Sustained follow-up and review of the implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the delivery of the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

Strategy

Paragraph 7.15

Insert new subparagraph (g), reading:

"(g) Providing secretariat support for the work of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up".

Legislative mandates

Commission on Population and Development resolutions

Add "2016/1 Strengthening the demographic evidence base for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

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Rapporteur: Mr. Aleg **Yermalovich** (Belarus)

Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019
(*Item 3 (b) (ii)*)

Programme 23
Humanitarian assistance

1. At its 9th meeting, on 3 June 2016, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 23, Humanitarian assistance, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019 (A/71/6 (Prog. 23)). The Committee also had before it a note by the Secretariat on the review of the biennial programme plan, by sectoral, functional and regional bodies (E/AC.51/2016/CRP.1/Rev.1).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Views were expressed in support and appreciation of the programme and the profoundly important and invaluable work carried out by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and its partners, in the face of challenging circumstances. It was underscored that it was necessary, however, to continue to build on the success achieved and to focus more on the population requiring humanitarian assistance. It was emphasized that timeliness in humanitarian response was of critical importance.

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4. Information was sought on how the office-wide functional review, expected to be published in the third quarter of 2016, was going to impact the strategic framework of the programme.

5. Reference was made to the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations on the programme evaluation of the Office (E/AC.51/2016/3), which had been discussed earlier. The Office was commended for its implementation of the recommendations.

6. Several delegations stressed that the strategic framework and all activities carried out by the Office must be in accordance with the framework of legislative mandates, in particular General Assembly resolution 46/182, and the agreed nomenclature. In that regard, it was pointed out that the use of the nomenclature "natural disasters" was too restrictive and not in line with agreed language. It appeared to exclude other types of disasters that were not necessarily natural, but attributable to other causes, man-made, technical and others. It was suggested that "crisis management" should be replaced by "humanitarian emergency management".

7. Concerns were expressed about the methodological aspects of the proposed strategic framework. In particular, it was indicated that the proposed framework needed to follow the principle of results-based management and that indicators of achievement should have focused more on the impact and outcome of the Office's work. The view was expressed that some of the existing indicators were clear and measurable and did not need to be revised, in particular when comparison of performance from one period to another was necessary. Other indicators, however, needed refinement. In particular, clarification was sought on how the use of "percentage" could be a useful indicator of achievement, given that it did not provide any information on a trend. It was emphasized that any changes to the strategic framework should be based on legislative mandates and should not be detrimental to the substance of the programme.

8. Regarding subprogramme 1, Policy and analysis, it was pointed out that, with regard to expected accomplishment (a), the engagement of other partners was certainly useful but should not be an end in itself. On expected accomplishment (c), clarification was sought on its origin and mandate, and the view was expressed that it needed to be properly linked to legislative mandates. In particular, it was stressed that the Office did not have a mandate related to the "protection of civilians", the main responsibility of which lied with national Governments and the Security Council.

9. On the strategy of subprogramme 1, in particular the plan to increase the number of humanitarian policy priorities, as discussed in the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening coordination and by Member States in the annual Economic and Social Council and General Assembly humanitarian resolution negotiations, in order to increase the likelihood of such priorities being adopted as resolutions, it was stressed that a report of the Secretary-General did not constitute a mandate but was used only as a basis for discussion.

10. On subprogramme 2, Coordination of humanitarian action and emergency response, clarification was sought on the change made to the title of subprogramme 2 in the Spanish version.

11. Regarding subprogramme 3, Natural disaster risk reduction, it was noted that the subprogramme had been significantly revised and that it needed to be fully based on the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. It was pointed out that some of the proposals would likely have budget implications. It was also pointed out that clarity was needed on the indicator of achievement (a) (i), given that it also related to disaster risk reduction strategies that confronted the root causes of social vulnerability, in particular taking into consideration that the question of the root causes of social vulnerability were not included in the Sendai Framework. Caution was expressed at the discussion of root causes, given that it quickly led to discussion of areas beyond the humanitarian mandate.

12. Regarding subprogramme 4, the usefulness of indicator of achievement (b) was questioned with the argument that all countries used some type of "disaster response and preparedness tools".

Conclusions and recommendations

13. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 23, Humanitarian assistance, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 23.1

Replace paragraph 23.1 with the following:

The overall purpose of the programme is to ensure the timely, coherent, coordinated and principled response of the international community to disasters and emergencies and to facilitate the transition from emergency relief to rehabilitation and sustainable development. The legislative authority and mandate for the programme are derived from General Assembly resolution 46/182, in which the Assembly set out the guiding principles of humanitarian response and which reinforced earlier decisions and resolutions adopted by the Assembly and by the Economic and Social Council concerning humanitarian assistance and the leadership role of the Secretary-General in responding to natural disasters and other humanitarian emergencies. This mandate has been confirmed and broadened through the normative developments of resolution 46/182 over the past 20 years.

Paragraph 23.2

At the end of the third sentence, insert "in compliance with the mandates emanating from the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.".

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Subprogramme 1
Policy and analysis

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with "Decisions of Inter-Agency Standing Committee members and other partners are informed by humanitarian policy analysis and dialogue".

Replace expected accomplishment (c) with "Improved capacity of United Nations coordinators for the protection of civilians".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) (ii) with "Increased number of recommendations arising from humanitarian policy and programmatic studies and reports implemented".

Replace indicator of achievement (b) with "Increased percentage of inter-agency evaluation recommendations implemented by humanitarian agencies".

Replace indicator of achievement (c) with "Number of resident coordinators and humanitarian coordinators trained in the application of guidelines for the protection of civilians".

Strategy

Paragraph 23.6

In the second sentence, delete "that Member States discuss in the annual Economic and Social Council and General Assembly humanitarian resolution negotiations, in order to increase the likelihood of such priorities being adopted as resolutions".

Subprogramme 2
Coordination of humanitarian action and emergency response

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (d), insert "relevant" before "United Nations".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (c) with "Increased percentage of project proposals under the rapid response window approved by the Emergency Relief Coordinator within three working days of their final submission".

Replace indicator of achievement (d) with "Increased percentage of new or escalating emergencies requiring international assistance in which coordination staff is deployed within seven days".

Strategy

Paragraph 23.9

In the second sentence replace "grooming" with "training".

At the end of the paragraph, delete ", as appropriate".

Subprogramme 3
Natural disaster risk reduction

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a) (i), delete ", including those that confront the root causes of social vulnerability".

In indicator of achievement (c), add "and projects" after "programmes".

Strategy

Paragraph 23.16

Replace paragraph 23.16 with "The International Strategy for Disaster Reduction will strive to ensure full implementation of Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, which was adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, in 2015, and endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 69/283.".

Paragraph 23.17

Delete the first sentence.

Paragraph 23.18

Replace the first sentence with "The International Strategy for Disaster Reduction will support the implementation, follow-up and review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, as prescribed in resolution 69/283.".

Subprogramme 4
Emergency support services

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) with the following:

(i) International assistance is provided to the affected country within 48 hours of its request for international assistance

(ii) Percentage of new or escalating emergencies in which coordination staff is deployed within seven days

Replace indicator of achievement (b) with "Total number of interoperable international humanitarian response tools and services adapted".

Subprogramme 5
Humanitarian emergency information and advocacy

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with "To ensure effective advocacy of humanitarian principles and knowledge-sharing, serving populations affected by disasters and emergencies".

Strategy

Paragraph 23.25

In the first sentence, replace "humanitarian crises" with "humanitarian crises and emergencies".

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Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019
(*Item 3 (b) (ii)*)

Programme 12
Human settlements

1. At its 14th meeting, on 8 June 2016, the Committee considered programme 12, Human settlements, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019 (A/71/6 (Prog. 12)). The Committee also had before it a note by the Secretariat on the proposed strategic framework, contained in conference room paper E/AC.51/2016/CRP.1/Rev.1.

2. The Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Appreciation was expressed for the presentation of the report of the Secretary-General, which, it was noted, contained improved and well-articulated subprogrammes. While recognizing the challenge to find outcomes that were logically connected with the work of UN-Habitat, a delegation pointed out that some indicators of achievement could be more focused on outcomes rather than outputs.

4. The view was expressed that the programme was topical in the light of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and it was noted that the document showed a clear linkage with Goal 11 of the Sustainable Development Goals and was consonant with the three pillars of urban development.

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5. It was pointed out that the proposal for programme 12 would not be complete without reflecting the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III). It was also noted that, while the expectation to adjust the programme on the basis of the results of the Conference would be logical and reasonable, the Conference should not be seen as an opportunity to expand mandates and resources but rather as an opportunity to find effective ways to reallocate and use existing resources in order to target objectives agreed at the Conference and articulated in the 2030 Agenda.

6. The importance of an integrated and holistic approach to urbanization was emphasized, although it was noted that the work of UN-Habitat should not overlap with the work of other relevant United Nations entities, as well as national, multinational and governmental efforts in the area. Encouragement was expressed for the integration and alignment of the work of UN-Habitat with that of other relevant organizations.

7. Emphasis was made on the key role of States in bringing about the sustainable development of urban areas and on the importance of continued UN-Habitat support to national governing bodies in the area of urbanization. The view was also expressed that, in its work on data collection, monitoring and evaluation, as well as specifically under subprogramme 6, Risk reduction and rehabilitation, the role of UN-Habitat was not supervisory but must be one of guidance, assistance and support to country efforts.

8. On the strategy for subprogramme 1, Urban legislation, land and governance, clarification was requested on the UrbanLex database and the Global Land Tool Network. Clarification was also sought on the scope, content and mandated origins of the United Nations Advisory Committee on Local Authorities.

9. It was noted that the role of governments in providing adequate human settlements infrastructure had not been appropriately reflected in the indicators of achievement under subprogramme 2, Urban planning and design. The view was also expressed that contributions to come from international cooperation for that purpose had not been identified and that any proposals for private sector funding in that regard might lead to conflicts of interest, given the associated social challenges.

10. It was noted that paragraph 12.31 of the strategy for subprogramme 6, Risk reduction and rehabilitation, should specify which programme having to do with climate change would have the responsibility for carrying out the implementation of the referenced international frameworks.

11. With regard to the increased number of urban observatories referenced in indicator of achievement (a) (i) under subprogramme 7, Urban research and capacity development, the view was expressed that such a mechanism should be chosen freely by Member States in accordance with national legislation. It was also noted that indicators of achievement under subprogramme 7 should be identified by means of available statistical information. Clarification was sought on the use of statistical information from national publications or other United Nations organizations. It was also suggested that, rather than prioritizing its own tools, UN-Habitat should focus its work on making recommendations for specific tools and methods so that cities and countries could collect data on their own.

12. The view was expressed that the anticipated outcomes of the World Humanitarian Summit, referenced in paragraph 12.7 of the overall orientation, were

not mandates of intergovernmental bodies per se. In that regard, delegations noted that amendments would be required to programme 12 once the relevant report of the Secretary-General was issued. The need to review which aspects of the event could be reflected at the present stage was also noted.

Conclusions and recommendations

13. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure that, in order to achieve its objective of assisting Member States in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals, the programme is realigned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, in line with established procedures.**

14. **The Committee welcomed the overall orientation of the programme, which takes into account the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement on climate change, and welcomed the references to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.**

15. **The Committee welcomed the alignment of UN-Habitat and its strategic plan with Goal 11 and the urban targets of the Sustainable Development Goals.**

16. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 12, Human settlements, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 12.6

At the end of the paragraph, replace "vulnerable people such as the poor, people living with disabilities, older persons, young people and women" with "people in vulnerable situations".

Paragraph 12.7

Replace the second sentence with the following:

"In coordinating the response to the global strategic processes, including the outcome of the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the 2030 Agenda, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, as well as the anticipated outcomes of Habitat III, the following seven subprogammes continue to be highly relevant."

Paragraph 12.9

Replace the paragraph with the following:

"12.9 UN-Habitat will increase outreach efforts and disseminate key messages to enhance global awareness and sensitization of sustainable urbanization issues."

Paragraph 12.11

Replace the last sentence with the following:

"Special attention will be paid to promoting the principle of optimization of the population density and economic density of urban settlements and, where appropriate, mixed land use, diversity and better connectivity, in order to increase urban value and productivity, and equitable access to basic services."

Paragraph 12.16

In the second sentence, after "to support", insert ", upon request by appropriate authorities,".

Paragraph 12.22

Insert "coordinate," before "cooperate and collaborate".

Subprogramme 1
Urban legislation, land and governance

Strategy

Paragraph 12.24

Replace the last sentence with the following:

"This integrated approach is central to the effective delivery of the 2030 Agenda."

Subprogramme 2
Urban planning and design

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), insert "and for planned urban expansions" after "inclusive cities".

In expected accomplishment (b), insert "and for planned urban expansions" after "and neighbourhoods".

Subprogramme 4
Urban basic services

Strategy

Paragraph 12.29

Replace paragraph 12.29 with the following:

"12.29 A key focus of subprogramme 4 is on supporting local, regional and national authorities responsible for urban and human settlements issues in developing and implementing policies for increasing equitable access to urban basic services and improving the standard of living of the urban poor, including in collaboration, where appropriate, with the private sector as well as non-profit

actors. The strategy for achieving the expected accomplishments is as follows:"

In subparagraph (b), replace the fourth sentence with the following:

"It will also continue to strengthen its work with governments and the private sector to channel financial support to expand access to urban basic services and to promote international cooperation in this regard as well."

Subprogramme 5
Housing and slum upgrading

Strategy

Paragraph 12.30

In the third sentence of subparagraph (b), delete "and meet the density and mixed-use requirements under the New Urban Agenda".

Subprogramme 6
Risk reduction and rehabilitation

Strategy

Paragraph 12.31

In the first sentence of subparagraph (a), replace "set and monitor" with "provide technical assistance for interested Member States on".

At the end of subparagraph (a), delete ", along with the mandates emerging from the World Humanitarian Summit".

Subprogramme 7
Urban research and capacity development

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a) (i), after "using", insert ", upon approval by appropriate authorities,".

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Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019
(*Item 3 (b) (ii)*)

Programme 4
Peacekeeping operations

1. At its 13th meeting, on 7 June 2016, the Committee considered programme 4, Peacekeeping operations, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019 (A/71/6 (Prog. 4)). The Committee also had before it a note by the Secretariat on the review of the biennial programme plan, by sectoral, functional and regional bodies (E/AC.51/2016/CRP.1/Rev.1).

2. The Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations introduced the programme and, together with other representatives, responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Peacekeeping operations were considered important mechanisms and unique instruments for the United Nations to employ to maintain peace and security. In that regard, delegations expressed their support, including through the contribution of troops to field missions, to all efforts undertaken within the purview of General Assembly and Security Council mandates. It was stressed that these operations were an important component in terms of human and financial resources. Support was expressed to specific missions, such as the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan.

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4. Delegations observed that the scope of the mandates of peacekeeping operations had been broadened, owing to new threats and challenges and to missions building local capacity and becoming more efficient and effective. The need to ensure the safety and security of peacekeepers was underlined, in the light of the recent attacks that had occurred in Mali, which had drawn international attention. In that regard, delegations enquired whether any concrete plans or measures had been implemented to protect troops on the ground.

5. Emphasis was placed on planning and rapid deployment as being key elements to international peace and security, which determined the role of the United Nations. Support was expressed for mainstreaming the benefits of the global field support strategy into the programme of work and using new mechanisms, tools and strategies, such as Umoja and the International Public Sector Accounting Standards, to address new challenges and to bring in fundamental changes in the way resources in the field were managed.

6. The view was expressed that the protection of civilians was a key priority of United Nations peacekeeping operations. In addition, it was considered that the importance of preventing and combating sexual exploitation and abuse was a critical issue that was not emphasized enough in the proposed strategic framework, especially in view of the recent Security Council resolutions on the subject, and support was expressed for the zero-tolerance policy in that respect. It was noted that changes in the proposed strategic framework for 2018-2019 should have focussed more on that issue.

7. It was pointed out that some revisions incorporated into the proposed strategic framework lacked clarity and required refinement to make them more objective, results-oriented and measurable. It was noted that changes made to the strategic framework of the programme were more detailed and therefore clearer.

8. Regarding the reference to continuing the reform and revitalization of peacekeeping in line with relevant recommendations of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations, the view was expressed that reference should be made to the related General Assembly resolutions on the implementation of the recommendations of the Panel, and clarification was sought on the number of recommendations already in the process of being implemented by the Secretariat. It was questioned why the proposed strategic framework had not included a reference to the report of the Secretary-General or mandates from other bodies, such as the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and the General Assembly, on the implementation of the recommendations of the Panel (paragraphs 4.7 and 4.12). Specific amendments to the text were proposed, such as removing the word "relevant" from the text: "continuing the reform and revitalization of peacekeeping in line with relevant recommendations of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations" (paragraph 4.7) and adding "including of troop- and police-contributing countries" after "improving client satisfaction" (paragraph 4.11).

9. The view was expressed that some of the proposed activities incorporated into the overall orientation (as mentioned in paragraph 4.10), such as facilitating the delivery of humanitarian assistance and coordinating economic rehabilitation or mine-clearance programmes, appeared to be beyond the mandate of peacekeeping operations, but fell under the purview of the Security Council. In addition, clarification was sought on the meaning of "creating security conditions conducive to the return of refugees and internally displaced populations".

10. Under the overall orientation, in paragraph 4.11, clarification was sought as to who constituted "internal clients and external stakeholders". Furthermore, it was noted that no mention was made of Member States and troop-contributing countries.

11. One delegation noted that, in the plan outline, it clearly states that follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development would be implemented under guidance from Member States, whereas the way forward with regard to the implementation of the recommendations of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations, which states "continuing the reform and revitalization of peacekeeping in line with relevant recommendations of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations", did not include any mention of guidance from Member States (paragraph 4.7). The same delegation mentioned that the approach should align with the plan outline and be clearly reflected in the relevant paragraph.

12. Under subprogramme 1, Operations, revisions to some of the existing indicators needed clarification. The view was expressed that the expression "on the basis of Security Council mandates" should be added to indicator of achievement (ii) of expected accomplishment (b). It was also noted that the reference to special political missions had been removed from paragraph 4.14, and the reasons for the deletion were requested.

13. Under subprogramme 2, Military, an update on the expected progress to be achieved by the end of the biennium 2016-2017 was sought. Additional clarification was sought on the legislative mandate behind indicator of achievement (a) (ii) on the initial/full deployment of advance teams, such as military and police components, and indicator of achievement (b) on the increased efficiency and effectiveness of the military components. Some delegations enquired as to whether Member States had been consulted in the elaboration of the United Nations military performance framework.

14. Under subprogramme 3, Rule of law and security institutions, an explanation on the increase of the number of indicators of achievement was sought. On indicator of achievement (a) (i), concern was raised regarding the use of maximum averages as an indicator of achievement for deployment, as this could imply a wide range of deployment times. It was suggested that indicators of achievement (a) (i), (ii) and (iii) be standardized to reflect one maximum average target instead of using varying targets. Clarification was sought on indicator of achievement (b) (ii) with regard to whether the "Increased number of peacekeeping operations" was appropriate, given that this fell outside the scope of decisions made by the Secretariat, and was rather the prerogative of Member States.

15. Under subprogramme 5, Field administrative support, concern was raised regarding the deployment of "experts" and their mandates (paragraph 4.23). On indicator of achievement (a) (i), concern was raised on the fact that selections from the roster of cleared candidates constituted between 85 and 90 per cent of all selections in field missions, which was considered a high rate. On expected accomplishment (d), the phrase "Increase in measures" indicated that new measures would be implemented, whereas changing the wording to "Full implementation of existing measures" would be more appropriate. Delegations enquired as to why, in expected accomplishment (c), an entire indicator of achievement pertaining to the recording of allegations of misconduct within three days had been deleted and what was the exact meaning of "allegations of serious misconduct".

16. Under subprogramme 6, Integrated support services, clarification was sought on "reducing the environmental impact of field missions" (paragraph 4.29) and on the difference in the services provided by the United Nations Support Base at Valencia, Spain, given that the Base was still considered controversial, was not yet part of the Global Service Centre and its designation had not yet been clarified (paragraph 4.30).

17. Regarding the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan, the view was expressed that the continued monitoring of the number of ceasefire violations demonstrated the continued relevance of the mission. Furthermore, support for the strengthening of the capacity of the mission was cited. Clarification was sought on the number of officials that provide backstopping to the Mission and the strategy of the Mission to address the backstopping needs.

Conclusions and recommendations

18. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 4, Peacekeeping operations, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 4.3

In the first sentence, delete "political and" and replace the word "peacemaking" with "sustaining peace".

Paragraph 4.7

Replace paragraph 4.7 with the following:

In carrying out their activities during the biennium 2018-2019, the Departments of Peacekeeping Operations and Field Support will focus on the following strategic, operational and support objectives: continuing the reform and revitalization of peacekeeping in line with relevant recommendations contained in: (a) the report of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations (A/70/95-S/2015/446) and the report of the Secretary-General on the future of United Nations peace operations: implementation of the recommendations of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations (A/70/357-S/2015/682), as reflected in the statement by the President of the Security Council (S/PRST/2015/22) and the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (A/70/19) endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/268; (b) the report of the Secretary-General on women and peace and security containing the results of the global study on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) (S/2015/716), as endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution 2242 (2015); and (c) the report of the Advisory Group of Experts on the Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture (A/69/968-S/2015/490), as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/262 and the Security Council in its resolution 2282 (2016); strengthening strategic and operational

planning, including strategic force generation, deployment, management and transition of United Nations peacekeeping operations and exit strategy development; facilitating a shared understanding and a coherent approach among the Secretariat, Member States and other stakeholders on the future direction of United Nations peacekeeping, as well as individual operations in other conflict situations; increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of United Nations peacekeeping operations and continuing to strengthen and professionalize institutional capacity to analyse and meet ongoing strategic and operational challenges.

Paragraph 4.8

In the second sentence, after "including Member States," add "fully and promptly".

In the third sentence, replace ", and careful consideration will be given to gender and geographical balance in the staffing of operations." with ". In accordance with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, the paramount consideration in the employment of staff shall be the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity. Due regard shall be paid to the importance of recruiting staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible, and the gender perspective will continue to be pursued, in accordance with relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council, including resolution 2122 (2013).".

Paragraph 4.9

Delete "specific" before "Security Council mandates".

Paragraph 4.10

Replace the third sentence with the following:

Mandates may include monitoring ceasefires and buffer zones; protecting civilians; providing specific protection for women and children; addressing the security threats and protection challenges faced by women and girls in armed conflict and post-conflict settings; disarming, demobilizing and reintegrating ex-combatants; supporting the reform of military establishments; training, advising, mentoring and monitoring host country police forces; contributing to the creation of security conditions conducive to the return of refugees and internally displaced populations; promoting electoral and judicial reform and assisting civil administrations; facilitating political processes to consolidate peace and strengthen State authority; monitoring, reporting and helping to prevent violations of international humanitarian law and of human rights; coordinating mine action, weapons and ammunition management and improvised explosive device response programmes; protecting cultural heritage as necessary and feasible; facilitating the delivery of humanitarian assistance; developing an exit strategy while maintaining relations with the host country.

Paragraph 4.11

Replace "client satisfaction" with "effectiveness and efficiency in service delivery".

In the last sentence, after "improved technological solutions," insert "rapid delivery of support,".

At the end of the paragraph, insert "The Department will continue to engage and interact with relevant troop- and police-contributing countries in accordance with the given mandate.".

A. Peacekeeping operations

Subprogramme 1
Operations

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), after "Improved" insert "context- and mission-specific".

In expected accomplishment (a), insert "relevant" before "intergovernmental".

In expected accomplishment (a), insert "and police-" after the word "troop-".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) (i) with "Increased percentage of recommendations of the Secretary-General, including those aimed at establishing new or implementing major adjustments to existing peacekeeping operations, incorporated into resolutions of the General Assembly, the Security Council and other relevant intergovernmental bodies".

In indicator of achievement (a) (ii), insert "and police-" after "troop-".

Subprogramme 2
Military

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), after "establishment of" add "better tailored".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a) (iii), replace "policy" with "police".

Strategy

Paragraph 4.15

In the third sentence, add "and police-" after "troop".

Paragraph 4.16

After "reporting period", add "and ensure that deployed contingents and personnel are fully capable of carrying out their specific tasks. These military standards and policy guidance documents will also be used".

Replace "build on the newly developed United Nations military performance framework" with "continue to address United Nations military performance issues".

Subprogramme 3
Rule of law and security institutions

Indicators of achievement

In indicators of achievement (a) (i) and (ii), delete "with a maximum average of 30 days from" and insert "which must be accomplished as soon as possible within 30 days of".

In indicator of achievement (a) (iii), delete "with a maximum average of 25 days from" and insert "which must be accomplished as soon as possible within 25 days of".

Replace indicator of achievement (b) (ii) with "Increased number of national rule of law and security institutions, supported by peacekeeping operations, assuming their rule of law and security responsibilities".

Subprogramme 4
Policy, evaluation and training

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

At the end of the expected accomplishment, insert "that are consistent with the Charter of the United Nations and the basic principles of peacekeeping".

Subprogramme 5
Field administrative support

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (d) with "Prevention and avoidance of serious misconduct".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (c) with "All allegations of serious misconduct reported to peacekeeping missions are reviewed within seven days of receipt, for entry in the Misconduct Tracking System and referral to United Nations Headquarters".

Replace indicator of achievement (d) with the following:

(i) Vetting of all United Nations peacekeeping personnel to ensure that they do not have a history of misconduct while serving with the United Nations (ii) New measures adopted on matters of serious misconduct, including but not limited to substantially enhanced

oversight by mission headquarters of all mission sites, enforcement of best practices, regular analysis and mitigation of risk factors linked to misconduct and assessment of managers at all levels for their role in enforcing United Nations standards of conduct

(iii) Decreased number of substantiated allegations of serious misconduct, including sexual exploitation and abuse

(iv) Timely and effective implementation of all measures adopted on matters of serious misconduct, including special measures to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse in accordance with Security Council resolution 2272 (2016) and General Assembly resolutions related to the matter

Strategy

Paragraph 4.21

In the first sentence, after "monitor and support the" add "timely".

Paragraph 4.23

Delete everything after "and ensure rapid response".

Paragraph 4.26

Replace paragraph 4.26 with the following:

Continued emphasis will be placed on: prevention of and swift response to misconduct, including vetting all personnel for prior misconduct, mandatory training for all categories of personnel on standards of conduct and mandatory training for all categories of personnel to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse through the provision of training materials to Member States and peacekeeping operations; public information programmes on standards of conduct and reporting mechanisms for victims; monitoring, review and provision of policy guidance and oversight with respect to United Nations standards of conduct; advising missions on conduct and discipline matters relating to all categories of personnel and assisting with appropriate and timely follow-up to allegations of misconduct with the Member States concerned with a view to increasing accountability. Assistance and support will be provided to inter-agency efforts on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse and on assistance to victims.

Subprogramme 6
Integrated support services

Strategy

Paragraph 4.29

Replace the last sentence with "The Division will continue its efforts to reduce the overall environmental footprint of each peacekeeping mission, including by implementing environmentally friendly waste-management and power-generation systems, in full compliance with the

relevant rules and regulations, including but not limited to the United Nations environmental and waste management policy and procedures.".

Paragraph 4.30

In the second sentence, replace "the United Nations Support Base at Valencia" with "the United Nations facility in Valencia".

Legislative mandates

A. Peacekeeping operations

General Assembly resolutions

Insert:

69/287	**Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects**
70/6	**Strengthening of the United Nations system**
70/268	**Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects**
70/286	**Cross-cutting issues**

Add the following subheading and legislative mandate:

Security Council resolution

2272 (2016) United Nations peacekeeping operations

United Nations E/AC.51/2016/L.4/Add.31

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Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Aleg **Yermalovich** (Belarus)

Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019
(*Item 3 (b) (ii)*)

Programme 21
International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees

1. At its 18th meeting, on 10 June 2016, the Committee considered programme 21, International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019 (A/71/6 (Prog. 21)). The Committee also had before it a note by the Secretariat on the proposed strategic framework, contained in conference room paper E/AC.51/2016/CRP.1/Rev.1.

2. The Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Appreciation and support were expressed for the programme and for the overall proposed strategic framework presented by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Delegations commended UNHCR for its important work in complex conditions, particularly in the field, and its efforts in providing international protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees, stateless persons, internally displaced persons and others of concern.

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4. The basic fundamental principles of impartiality, neutrality and humaneness were stressed, including the need for the work of the Office to be non-political. It was highlighted that the main focus of the Office must be to assist national Governments in dealing with their refugee populations and that, when operating in sovereign States' territories, all activities must be undertaken within the framework of national legislations.

5. Reference was made to the summit on the global refugee crisis, to be held in September 2016 at the sidelines of the General Assembly high-level plenary meeting on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, and which would seek to secure new commitments towards increased and sustained support for United Nations humanitarian appeals, greater opportunities for resettlement and expanded opportunities for refugee self-reliance through access to education, legal employment and other measures. Given the increasing complexities of emergencies, the importance of partnerships and coordination of activities was highlighted, including the need for the United Nations system to ensure complementarity and cooperation. It was suggested that the Office should collaborate with other agencies, for example, with the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme.

6. It was highlighted that indicators of achievement should be outcome-oriented and should focus on results. The view was expressed that UNHCR should better track the indicators and, given the limited resources available, ensure the optimal alignment of operational resources with needs. In that regard, emphasis was placed on the need to ensure adequate staff in the field and at Headquarters, in other words, "to place the right people in the right place".

7. Reference was made to the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) on the review of the evaluation capacity of UNHCR (E/AC.51/2013/5). UNHCR was encouraged to continue to implement the recommendations of OIOS.

8. Continued support was expressed for the Office's efforts to implement a naturalization programme for refugees, which was deemed to be an elemer essential to support displaced persons, together with local integration programmes. Likewise, the importance of registration of refugees, on an individual basis, was highlighted. Information was sought on the ways in which the Office was dealing with situations where host authorities did not cooperate in that process. In that regard, clarification was sought regarding ways to ensure that the basic needs of refugees were met and to ensure the link between basic needs and registration of refugees.

9. With regard to paragraph 21.6 (g) of the overall orientation, attention was drawn to editorial amendments and clarification was sought about the reason for those amendments. The view was expressed that the previous version, as contained in the biennial programme plan for the period 2016-2017, had been clearer with regard to the obligation of United Nations officials to observe fully both the laws and regulations of Member States.

10. Appreciation was expressed for expected accomplishment (c), Increased safety from violence and exploitation for refugees and others of concern, especially women and children, in light of the particular vulnerability of the latter.

11. Information was sought on various indicators of achievement, including (c) (i), (d) (iv) and (e) (i), namely on whether baseline figures were already available so as

to allow for comparisons, and (f) (ii), namely on the use and the meaning of the phrase "persons of concern".

12. Diverging views were expressed on paragraph 21.10 of the strategy, in particular the recognition that gender-related forms of persecution and discrimination and violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons of concern required a concerted protection response and might also be grounds for granting refugee status.

13. The strongest concern raised by a number of delegations focused on the inclusion of the concept, with the argument that the issue was not unanimously acceptable to all delegations. Several delegations expressed the view that the formulation was not in accordance with the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol thereto, nor any other conventions or mandate, and information was requested on the exact legal basis for the inclusion. Information was also sought on the empiric basis for the concept, including data on the origin and present location of such persons, which had triggered UNHCR to include the formulation. Information was further sought on the countries where UNHCR would work and deliver the capacity-building activities to raise awareness of the issue and, in that regard, delegations highlighted that homosexuality was a crime in the national legislation of several countries and that the sovereignty and authority of States meant that UNHCR must strictly comply with host countries' national legislation and fully respect local cultures, norms and beliefs. Delegations stressed that UNHCR should focus on humanitarian issues and not enter into political discussion. Therefore, delegations stressed, any references to the concept must be deleted from the text.

14. Several other delegations welcomed and expressed strong support for a gender and diversity perspective and the inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex issues in the strategic framework. The delegations highlighted the great importance of actions against sexual and gender-based violence and concurred with the opinion of UNHCR that women, children, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons of concern and other persons with specific needs were most vulnerable and deserved support. As to the mandate for inclusion of the concept, the view was expressed that it was covered in the existing mandates and did not represent an extension of the mandate of the Office, which was founded on a human rights-based approach. Reference was made to the adoption of Human Rights Council resolution 27/32 on human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity, and emphasis was placed on the need for decriminalization of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex refugees and persons of concern.

15. Under the list of mandates, it was noted that General Assembly resolution 70/1 on transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, was not included. Clarification was sought as to the reason for that omission, particularly in light of paragraphs 23 and 25 of the resolution, which contained references to refugees.

Conclusions and recommendations

16. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve the programme narrative of programme 21, International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 21.6

Replace subparagraph (g) with:

"Ensuring the security of refugee camps, settlements and areas of return, as well as their civilian and humanitarian character, and exploring further concrete ways of enhancing the safety and security of UNHCR staff and other humanitarian workers working with refugees and returnees. In this regard, due consideration should be given to the obligation of United Nations officials to observe fully both the laws and regulations of Member States and their duties and responsibilities to the Organization".

Paragraph 21.7

In the second sentence, insert "General" before "Assembly".

Paragraph 21.8

In the third and fourth sentences, insert "General" before "Assembly".

Objective of the Organization

Delete "as applicable".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (g), insert "partnership and" after "strengthened".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (c) (i), insert "UNHCR" before "operations".

Add new indicator of achievement (e) (iii) to read "Increased percentage of UNHCR operations implementing alternatives to camps".

In indicator of achievement f (ii), replace "persons of concern" with "refugees".

Replace indicator of achievement (f) (iii) with "Increased percentage of UNHCR operations supporting national authorities with the local integration of refugees".

Strategy

Paragraph 21.10

Replace the last sentence with "UNHCR will work with Governments to raise awareness that gender-related forms of persecution may be grounds for refugee status. It will also work with Governments to raise awareness of the fact that gender-based violence against refugees and persons of concern requires a concerted protection response".

Paragraph 21.13

In the first sentence, insert "within its mandate" after "will undertake".

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

Add resolution 70/1, "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

Add resolution 70/165, "Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons".